RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) :

(*a*) Yes,

(*b*) Mr. A. M. Clement L. R. C. P., L. R. C. S., L. R. F. P. & S. (Glas), & L. D. S. R. C. S. (Edin). Rs. 175 per mensem.

(*c*) The nature of treatment depends upon the nature of the cases.

The General Hospital.

198. ❋ **MR. S. J. NAIR** (*Nedumangad*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) how many medical officers are employed at present in the General Hospital ;

(*b*) how many of them are engaged in the out-patient ward and how many in the in-patient ward ; and

(*c*) how many patients on an average in a month there are in the in-patient ward and how many patients attend the out-patient ward ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) :

(*a*) 21 Medical Officers including the Assistant Superintendent and the four Honorary House Surgeons.

(*b*) Two Medical Officers are in the Out-patient Dispensary, five are in the Special Departments, *viz.*, two in the X-ray, one in the Ear, Nose and Throat, one in the Dental and one in the Clinical Laboratory and the rest in the In-patient wards.

(*c*) 13,297 patients in the in-patient wards and 12,356 in the out-patient dispensary.

Fish Curing.

199. ❋ **MR. G. NILAKANTAN** (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the quantity of fish cured annually in the Government fish curing yards ; and

(*b*) the quantity of fish cured in the private curing yards, in Travancore ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) There are 12 Fish Curing Yards under the control of the Department and full details regarding the quantity of fish cured in these institutions annually are given in the Administration Reports of the Department.

(*b*) So far as Government are aware, there are no fish curing yards worth the name owned by private individuals. But small quantities of fish are being cured by fishermen as well as members of some other communities in their own premises. There is no agency at present for the collection of statistics relating to the quantity of fish thus cured and it is not therefore possible to supply the information asked for by the member.

Martandam Rural Centre.

200. ❋ **MR. G. NILAKANTAN** (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

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(*a*) whether the Government have enquired into the details of the expenditure of the annual grant of Rs. (3,000) three thousand given to the Y. M. C. A., for the Martandam Rural Centre; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, what the details are?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) (*a*) No.

(*b*) The question does not arise.

Abolition of the monopoly of royal trees.

201 ***MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON** (*Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have finally abolished the monopoly of royal trees standing on the western side of the Main Central Road, as per notification published in the Royalty Committee Report; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether a proclamation has been published in the Gazette to that effect?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

Marketing Officers.

202 ***MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON** (*Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) when the Marketing Officers were appointed;

(*b*) the average monthly cost on account of them and their establishment; and

(*c*) the nature of their work?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) A Marketing Officer was appointed from the 18th Kanni 1111.

(*b*) His salary is Rs. 150 per mensem and the cost of his establishment, which consists of a clerk on Rs. 25-40 and a peon on Rs. 9-11, amounts to Rs. 34 per mensem at present.

(*c*) His function is to conduct, in co-operation with the Imperial and Provincial Staff of Marketing Officers, a survey of the marketing of agricultural products including dairy and animal husbandry products and fish, and detect defects in existing practices and suggest remedies.

The Travancore Sugars.

203 ***MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI** (*Kalkulam II*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the State's relationship with the Travancore Sugars, Ltd., Thuckala; and

(*b*) whether it is a profitable or losing concern now?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Government have taken 16,666 fully paid up shares of the value of Rs. 2,49,990 in the Travancore Sugars and granted, on the security of its properties, movable and immovable, a loan of Bh. Rs. 1,00,000 and a cash credit of Rs. 50,000 to be drawn by the Sugars from time to time according to necessities.

(*b*) It was working as a profitable concern for some time, but it has not been working from June last as the contractors have not been able presumably to find sufficient funds to work the concern.

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